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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/018,412	12/13/2001	Martin Hildebrand	ZAHFRI P393US	1202
20210	7590	04/02/2004	EXAMINER	
DAVIS & BUJOLD, P.L.L.C.			HO, HA DINH	
FOURTH FLOOR			ART UNIT	
500 N. COMMERCIAL STREET			PAPER NUMBER	
MANCHESTER, NH 03101-1151			3681	

DATE MAILED: 04/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/018,412	HILDEBRAND ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ha D. Ho	3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2003 and 09 February 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 12,13 and 21-27 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 8,12,21 and 25 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 9-11,13,22-24,26 and 27 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/29/03 has been entered.

2. This Office Action is responsive to The Amendment filed on 10/29/03. Claims 8-13 have been amended, Claims 14-20 have been canceled, and new claims 21-27 have been added accordingly. Claims 8-13 and 21-27 are currently pending.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- On page 4, the description of the Fig. 1 in the paragraph 013 is the same as the description of the Fig. 2 in the paragraph 014. It is unclear as whether Figs. 1 and 2 are the same.
- On page 4, paragraph 015, it is unclear that Fig. 3 is a side view of the hydraulic pump and of the hydraulic motor of Fig. 1 or Fig. 2.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 8, 12, 21 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bolinger et al. (US 4,111,003).

Regarding claims 8 and 21, Bolinger et al'003 teaches a power distribution transmission having a hydraulic pump (30) co-axially connected to a hydraulic motor (31) via an intermediate plate/support (32) which is secured to a transmission housing (12) via connecting elements (25, 26, 80) including elastic damping elements (80), the hydraulic pump and motor (30, 31) communicate with mechanical power branch via shafts (51, 53) which are floating supported (i.e., via the damper 80), wherein remote ends of the shafts (51, 53) have crowned teeth (i.e., gears 52, 54).

Regarding claims 12 and 25, wherein the hydraulic pump (30) has centering receptacles (e.g., the pump cylinders). Note that the intended use of the claimed centering receptacles is not giving patentable weight.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 9-11, 13, 22-24 and 26-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Communication

7. Submission of your response by facsimile transmission is encouraged. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-93069326 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306872-9327 for After Final communications. Recognizing the fact that reducing cycle time in the processing and examination of patent applications will effectively increase a patent's term, it is to your benefit to submit responses by facsimile transmission whenever permissible. Such submission will place

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the response directly in our examining group's hands and will eliminate Post Office processing and delivery time as well as the PTO's mail room processing and delivery time. For a complete list of correspondence not permitted by facsimile transmission, see M.P.E.P. 502.01. In general, most responses and/or amendments not requiring a fee, as well as those requiring a fee but charging such fee to a deposit account, can be submitted by facsimile transmission. Responses requiring a fee which applicant is paying by check should not be submitting by facsimile transmission separately from the check. Responses submitted by facsimile transmission should include a Certificate of Transmission (M.P.E.P. 512). The following is an example of the format the certification might take:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to
the Patent and Trademark Office on _____
(Date)

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate:

(Signature)

If your response is submitted by facsimile transmission, you are hereby reminded that the original should be retained as evidence of authenticity (37 CFR 1.4 and M.P.E.P. 502.02). Please do not separately mail the original or another copy unless required by the Patent and Trademark Office. Submission of the original response or a follow-up copy of the response after your response has been transmitted by facsimile will only cause further unnecessary delays in the processing of your application; duplicate responses where fees are charged to a deposit account may result in those fees being charged twice.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Ho whose telephone number is (703) 305-0738. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time. If attempts to reach the examiner by phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Charles Marmor, can be reached at (703) 308-0830. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

Ha Ho 4/01/04

Ha Ho
Patent Examiner
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